

In the Claims:

A complete listing of all claims pending, amended and canceled is included as follows:

1. (original) A tactical defense device, comprising:

a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the dispenser body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;

a nozzle plate having a discharge orifice supported within the forward portion;

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch mechanism; and

a baton having an elongated handle portion having a first end defining a tip portion and an opposite second end adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

2. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the forward portion of the dispenser is enlarged.

3. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first and second ends of the dispenser ~~define annular threads~~ have mating portions.

4. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 including an annular retainer adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser.

5. (original) The device in accordance with claim 4 wherein the annular retainer includes an interior thread.

6. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the dispenser includes a slidingly insertable sleeve for holding a pressurized spray cartridge.

7. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the dispenser has an annular cover sleeve formed thereon.

8. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 7 wherein the annular cover sleeve is formed of a foam material that enhances~~suitable to enhance~~ gripping of the dispenser, ~~such as foam~~.

9. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the discharge orifice of the nozzle plate is in axial alignment with a discharge nozzle of an inserted pressurized spray cartridge.

10. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein an outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a light-reflective material.

11. (original) The device in accordance with claim 10 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a silver color.

12. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a non-reflective material.

13. (original) The device in accordance with claim 12 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a dark, buff color.

14. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a brightly colored material.

15. (original) The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a red color.

16. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 including a plurality of interchangeable nozzle plates having different outer planar exposed surfaces.

17. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 ~~wherein~~
including an external seal member is associated with adjacent to the nozzle plate.

18. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
first and second ends of the connector coupling have define-internal annular threads.

19. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 including an end cap
adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

20. (original) The device in accordance with claim 19 wherein the end cap and
the dispenser are in substantially axial alignment.

21. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 19 wherein the
end cap ~~defines~~ has an external thread.

22. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
switch mechanism comprises~~includes~~ a plunger actuator adjacent to ~~and~~ an actuator
button that carries a safety slide button for dispense the contents of the spray cartridge
when desired.

23. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 22 wherein the switch mechanism further includes a guide pin within the plunger actuator and a coil compression spring carried about the guide pin.

24. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 22 including wherein the a circular cap portion defining a retainer leg depending below the safety slide button ~~includes a circular cap portion with a retainer leg formed thereon~~.

25. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 22 wherein the safety slide button defines a cap portion, the cap portion having an outer surface of the ~~safety slide button~~ is formed with concentric rings on its surface.

26. (canceled) The device in accordance with claim 22 wherein the actuator button and the cap portion of the safety slide button have mutually cooperable channels.

27. (original) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the baton has telescoping sections adapted to be stowed within its elongated handle portion.

28. (canceled) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the baton extends in response to a snap action movement.

29. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the second end of the baton ~~defines~~ has annular threads.

30. (currently amended) A tactical defense device, comprising:
a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the dispenser adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;
a nozzle plate having a discharge orifice supported within the forward position;
a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch mechanism;
~~a the switch mechanism having comprising~~ a plunger actuator, ~~a guide pin, a coil compression spring,~~ and an actuator button carrying a safety slide button for actuating and dispensing the contents of the pressurized spray cartridge when desired; and
a baton having an elongated handle portion having a first end defining a tip portion and an opposite second end adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

31. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the forward portion of the dispenser is enlarged.

32. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the first and second ends of the dispenser ~~define~~have annular threads.

33. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 including an annular retainer adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser.

34. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the annular retainer includes an interior thread.

35. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the dispenser includes a slidingly insertable sleeve for holding a pressurized spray cartridge.

36. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the dispenser has an annular cover sleeve formed thereon.

37. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 36 wherein the annular cover sleeve is formed of a foam material ~~suitable to that enhances~~enhance gripping of the dispenser, ~~such as foam~~.

38. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the discharge orifice of the nozzle plate is in axial alignment with a discharge nozzle of an inserted pressurized spray cartridge.

39. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein an outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a light-reflective material.

40. (original) The device in accordance with claim 39 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a silver color.

41. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a non-reflective material.

42. (original) The device in accordance with claim 41 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a dark, buff color.

43. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a brightly colored material.

44. (original) The device in accordance with claim 43 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a red color.

45. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 including a plurality of interchangeable nozzle plates having different outer planar exposed surfaces.

46. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 30 ~~wherein~~
including an external seal member is associated with adjacent to the nozzle plate.

47. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the first and second ends of the connector coupling ~~have~~define internal annular threads.

48. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 including an end cap adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

49. (original) The device in accordance with claim 48 wherein the end cap and the dispenser are in substantially axial alignment.

50. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 48 wherein the end cap ~~defines~~has an external thread.

51. (original) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the baton has telescoping sections adapted to be stowed within its elongated handle portion.

52. (canceled) The device in accordance with claim 30 wherein the baton extends in response to a snap action movement.

53. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the second end of the baton ~~defines~~ has annular threads.

54. (original) A baton and dispenser device comprising, in combination,
a baton having an elongated handle portion having a first end defining a tip portion and an opposite second end adapted for connection;

a dispenser including a tubular body having a first end and an opposite second end defining a head portion, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge having a discharge nozzle configured to be disposed adjacent the head portion;

a nozzle plate supported within the head portion and having a discharge orifice in axial alignment with the discharge nozzle and adapted for cooperation with the discharge nozzle to effect discharge from the cartridge when disposed in predetermined relation to the discharge orifice;

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the baton, and a second end adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser, the baton and dispenser body being in substantially axial alignment;

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the connector coupling having a switch mechanism supported therein including a switch actuator mutually cooperable with the spray cartridge; and

the connector coupling adapted to be actuated by a user's thumb or finger while grasping the connector coupling in the user's hand so as to effect discharge from the cartridge.